

6 July 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Newsweek (July 4) Article on the Mid-East

1. Though this article is generally sound and timely in viewing with alarm certain developments in the Near East, it should be noted that the bulk of the report originates among the states that are hostile to the Northern Tier concept, i.e. Lebanon and Iraq are virtually ignored.
2. The U.S. policy to be constructive and fair in the Middle East is inevitably at a tactical disadvantage as against the Soviet policy of exacerbating all disputes and tearing down our programs tending toward national or regional cohesion. If we can only be sufficiently quick on our feet with respect to such decisions as arms aid to Iran and arms sales to Egypt, there is no reason for us to come off second best. Moreover, discouraging as the mess in Syria may be, I believe the pro-Western elements, particularly with Turkish and Iraqi backing, can and will win out.
3. Finally, despite Soviet blandishment, I believe there is enough realism in most of the Arab administrations to recognize that their economic development can be fostered much better by cooperation with the West than by anything material or technical that the Soviet Bloc can spare them.
4. I attach a factual note prepared by Mr. Dubberstein and Ambassador Byrns' pertinent comments in a cable which you may have read yesterday.


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Deputy Director/Intelligence

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Attachments

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW